THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (c) the orientation/training of the pilgrims as a regular feature of Haj arrangements. Haj Committee of India in coordination with State Haj Committee and other Voluntary Organizations, who are involved in the Haj arrangements, has been conducting orientation camps throughout the country. In these specially organized camps of the prospective Haj pilgrims, Haj committee lays special emphasis, among other things, on the performance of Haj, especially on safety measures, methods to deal with the emergencies such as accidents and stampedes, etc. These are explained in detail by the specially trained resource persons. Greater stress will be given to educate about the safety measures to the prospective pilgrims in these specially arranged orientation classes at the district level throughout the country in future. The Government of Saudi Arabia have already commenced redesigning of Jamarat so as to meet the future contingencies and to streamline the security measures for the coming Haj seasons. Regarding the number of Haj pilgrims, Government approves them at the manageable level.

Seperation of nuclear and civil facilities

433. SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have submitted to the US authorities its plan for separation of civil and military nuclear facilities in India;

(b) whether it has also informed the US authorities that it would have no objection if this information was conveyed to the US Congress; and

(c) the response of Government of US to this proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ANAND SHARMA): (a) Under the terms of the 18 July 2005 Indo-US understanding on nuclear issues, India has undertaken the obligation to identify civilian facilities and come up with a separation plan for its civil and military facilities, the broad contours and parameters that will determine India's separation plan have been discussed with representatives of the US Government.

(b) No, Sir Government has not sent such a communication to the US authorities. Government has made it clear on numerous occasions that it is discussing the understanding on nuclear issues with the US Administration and not the US Congress.

(c) Does not arise.

Demilitarisation of J&K

434. SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan has made a formal proposal for demilitarisation of Jammu and Kashmir and for self rule there;

(b) if so, the details of the proposals made; and

(c) the response of Government to these proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, Pakistan raised it during the recent Foreign Secretary level talks held in New Delhi on 17-18 January 2006.

(c) Any demilitarization or redeployment of security forces within the territory of India is a sovereign decision of the Government of India and cannot be dictated by any foreign government. Such decisions are based on our assessment of the security situation prevailing in any particular part of the country. As long as the security situation in Jammu and Kashmir and indeed in other parts of the country is adversely affected by the phenomenon of cross-border terrorism and violence perpetrated by Pakistan-based terrorist groups, the Government of India will fulfill its responsibility to safeguard the lives and security of its citizens.

President Musharraf has repeatedly given solemn assurances that no part of the territory under Pakistan's control would be used for any cross-border terrorism against India. The implementation of this commitment is unconditional. Our aim should be to establish peace and tranquility all along the India-Pakistan border and all along the LoC so that there is no need for the two countries to deploy troops in proximity to one another.